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FLOOR DEBATE

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LB 329

provide no more than \$300,000 by October 1, 2001. It requires the contracts contain a provision that prohibits the university from using any state funds for administrative purposes in conjunction with the project that is the subject of the contract. Senator Beutler, I did regret opposing your amendment. I'm going to predict a limited success for this program. I think the NRDs will implement it and I think there will be new property taxes generated to match the funds. I could be wrong, but we will know a year from now. And I think if the NRDs do not do that, I think the Legislature will come back and be very disappointed in what they have not done. But I think this will be done, maybe not a hundred percent success, but I think a relatively high success. So I do make that prediction. I do think we have turned the tide on nitrogen contamination in our water supply. Certainly some NRDs have found success with that. There is other areas of the state where the nitrogen contamination continues to get higher, but the management techniques that we're using in agriculture now do not allow for a lot of mistakes when it comes to applying fertilizer and the oversight that our NRDs have I think is helping. So I think we've turned the corner. We no longer apply fertilizer as a cheap commodity, and so if 100 pounds is good we put on 200 pounds. We don't have that luxury any more because there is not that room...that margin of error in agriculture anymore. So I predict success for this program. I'm not sure we have adequately funded it with this, but I think it is a good start. So with that, I thank you for your time and ask for you to vote green to advance AM1961.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: You've heard the closing. The question before the body is the adoption of the Schrock amendment as amended. All those in favor vote aye; all those opposed vote nay. Record.

CLERK: 30 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the adoption of Senator Schrock's amendment.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: The amendment is adopted.

CLERK: Senator Schrock, AM1101, but I have a note you want to withdraw that one, Senator. Senator Coordsen, AM0828.